

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 FEA-02 INT-08 SCI-06

TRSE-00 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 FMC-04 DRC-01 /137 W

----- 051417

R 221600Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3706

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL CAPE TOWN 0045

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN SHIP BUNKERING REGULATIONS

REF: (A) PRETORIA 2TV KB) STATE 13050; (C) GABORONE 83

1. ECONOMIC MINISTER MULLER HAS MADE CONFIRMING POLICY STATEMENT IN CAPE TOWN ANTICIPATED REF (A).

2. (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED) ACCORDING PRESS REPORT JANUARY 19, THE MINISTER REFERRED TO SHORTAGES OF BUNKER FUEL IN MOST COUNTRIES ENCOUNTERING REDUCED SUPPLIES OF CRUDE OIL AND EXPLAINED THAT IN SOUTH AFRICA AVAILABLE SUPPLIES OF BUNKER FUEL WERE REDUCED TO EXTENT THAT "IT IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE FOR OIL COMPANIES TO SATISFY NORMAL REQUIREMENTS OF ALL SHIPS IN SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS. OIL COMPANIES, WITH GOVERNMENT'S APPROVAL, HAVE DECIDED THEREFORE TO PLACE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON FUEL SUPPLIES TO SHIPS IN SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT REASONABLE REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES AS WELL AS THOSE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALL FOREIGN SHIPS TRADITIONALLY SERVING SOUTH AFRICAN IMPORT

AND EXPORT TRADE SHOULD BE SATISFIED BEFORE FUEL SUPPLIES
ARE ALLOCATED TO OTHER VESSELS.

3. "SOUTH AFRICAN AND FOREIGN SHIPPING COMPANIES TO WHOM
PREFERENCE IS GIVEN IN SUPPLY OF FUEL AT SOUTH AFRICAN HARBORS
VIRTUALLY WITHOUT EXCEPTION HAVE FIXED CONTRACTS WITH LOCAL
OIL COMPANIES FOR SUPPLY OF THEIR FUEL REQUIREMENTS. OTHER
SHIPPING LINES REFERRED TO ABOVE DO NOT, HOWEVER, HAVE SUCH
CONTRACTS WITH THE OIL COMPANIES AND WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO TAKE
ON FUEL SUPPLIES IN SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS IF THE GOVERNMENT'S
PRIOR APPROVAL FOR THE SUPPLY OF THEIR REQUIREMENTS IS OBTAINED
BY THE OWNERS OR USERS OF THE SHIPS CONCERNED.

4. "UNDER PREVAILING CONDITIONS IT IS, GENERALLY SPEAKING, NOT
POSSIBLE TO APPROVE THE SUPPLY OF FUEL TO SHIPS WHICH TAKE NO
PART IN SOUTH AFRICA'S FOREIGN TRADE."

5. (BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) CONSUL GENERAL DISCUSSED
BUNKER SITUATION WITH MOBIL S.A. CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR
W.F. BECK ON JANUARY 21. BECK HAD NOT YET SEEN MULLER'S
STATEMENT BUT CONFIRMED THAT OIL COMPANIES HAD WORKED OUT AN
ARRANGEMENT WITH THE GOVT TO INSURE FUEL AVAILABILITY FOR SHIPS
TRADITIONALLY SERVING SOUTH AFRICA'S PORTS AND FOR SHIPS
ENGAGED IN COASTAL TRADE. HE ADDED THAT THE SUPPLYING OF FUEL
OIL TO OTHER SHIPS WOULD HAVE TO RECEIVE LOWER PRIORITY.
IDEALLY THE SYSTEM WOULD SERVE TO GET THESE SHIPS ON TO THE NEXT
PORT TO MAXIMIZE USE OF WHAT FUEL WAS AVAILABLE AND TO AVOID
CONGESTION IN ANY SOUTH AFRICAN PORT.

DECON 1/2/74 GAMON

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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